NATIONAL GALLERY, IRELAND.

REPORT

OF

THE DIRECTOR

TO THE

BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND GUARDIANS

FOR THE YEAR 1912.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command of His Majesty.

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NATIONAL GALLERY, IRELAND.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR 1912.

NATIONAL GALLERY OF IRELAND,
4th June, 1913.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Report for the year 1912.

During the year the following works were added to the collection :—

(*a*) For the General Collection :—

Portrait of the Hon. Mrs. La Touche, of Bellevue, by Catterson Smith, P.R.H.A., and a Landscape by J. A. Aitken, A.R.H.A.; purchased for £100.

A Garden, by Walter Osborne, R.H.A.; purchased for £25.

Portrait of a Man, by B. Van Orley; purchased for £115.

Portrait of a Lady, in Pastel, by H. D. Hamilton; purchased for £15.

Study of two female figures, by Sir E. Burne Jones; purchased for £46 4*s*. 0*d*.

Miniature Portrait of Mrs. Thorpe, probably by an Irish Artist, purchased for £10.

Miniature of a Lady, by J. Comerford. Seven drawings: by J. H. Mortimer, G. H. Harlow, Sir T. Lawrence, Baccio Bandinelli, Adrian Van Ostade, and two unknown artists, purchased for £30.

Interior with figures, by Henry Allan, R.H.A., presented by J. M. Kavanagh, R.H.A.

Four Portrait drawings by Thomas Bridgford, R.H.A. presented; by J. H. Bridgford, Esq.

Two Portrait Groups, and three single Portraits, Silhouettes, by A. Edouart; purchased for £14 14*s*. 0*d*.

Miniature, in enamel, of Charles, 4th Duke of Rutland, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, by Horace Hone, and the following drawings:—Head of a Girl, in red chalk, by Guercino; a Woman and Child, by Vanvitelli; Study for an "Entombment," by A. Elsheimer; Death of the Hydra, by Dominico Piola; The Liberation of St. Peter, by Carlo Maratti; Hercules, by Carlo Maratti; St. Paul at Ephesus, by Eustache Lesueur; Conversion of St. Paul, by G. B. Foggino; A sheet of Sketches, School of Michael Angelo Buoanarotti; three Sketches of heads, by Bandinelli; also 37 engraved Portraits, mostly after pictures by Nathaniel Hone, R.A.; all bequeathed by Miss Eleanor Hone, of Traverslea, Kingstown.

Portrait of Hugo Grotius, artist unknown.

The Triumph of the Reformation, artist unknown.

Portrait of a Boy, artist unknown.

Five copies from Pictures by Velazquez in the Museo del Prado, by J. Pineda. All bequeathed to the Gallery by Mrs. Lecky.

Portrait Sketch of John Hughes, R.H.A., by Walter Osborne, and a Crystal Ball mounted in silver, both bequeathed by Sir W. Thornley Stoker, Bart.

Illustrated Catalogue of the Bronzes in the collection of Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan, in two vols.; presented by Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan.

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(*b*) For the National Historical and Portrait Gallery :—

The Portico of the House of Lords, Water-colour, by S. Woolly; purchased for £10

View of Trinity College seen through the colonnade of the Parliament House; Water-colour drawing by James Malton; purchased for £38, 17s. 0d.

Drawing of the Casino at Marino; purchased for £5.

Portrait of M. Balfe, drawing by D. Maclise; purchased for £5.

Bust, in terra-cotta, of the O'Gorman Mahon, by J. Adams Acton; purchased for £10.

Portraits of Col. T. E. Taylor, Major O'Gorman, and the O'Donoghue of the Glens—original drawings for Cartoons in "Vanity Fair"; purchased for £7 17*s* 6*d*.

Portrait of Sir John T. Gilbert, painted by John Lavery, A.R.A., presented by Lady Gilbert.

A cast from Death Mask of John Philpot Curran, presented by the Council of the Royal Hiberian Academy.

Portrait in chalk of W. E. H. Lecky, bequeathed by Mrs. Lecky.

A Book, "List of Sedan chair owners in 1787" and a Subscriber's Ticket for the Rotunda Assemblies in 1789, presented by Dr. Rankin Lyle, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Medallion Portrait of Count Maurice de Lacy, an Irish officer in the Russian service: presented by Francis Steuart, Esq., of Edinburgh.

A Plan of Kingstown; presented by the Right Hon. L. A. Waldron.

The following have been deposited on loan in the National Portrait Gallery :—

Portrait of Sir Frederick Falkiner, Recorder of Dublin; painted by Walter Osborne. Lent by Rev. Travers H. Falkiner for the period of his lifetime.

Portrait of Chief Justice C. Kendal Bushe, by Martin Cregan. Lent by Surgeon Bushe.

The continuance of the Loan of 14 Pictures from the reserve in the store-rooms of the Gallery, to the Board of Works, for the decoration of the State rooms in the Castle, was sanctioned by the Board on 7th February.

The Board at its meeting on 7th August directed that in future the charge of sixpence payable for admission to the Gallery on Thursdays and Fridays by those who are not students, should be abolished, and that the hours of opening should be from 10 to 5, or dusk, on all week-days, and that students should be permitted to copy at any time when the Gallery is open, under such regulations as the Director should from time to time think necessary.

In the course of the summer and autumn the whole of the upper and lower rooms of the new wing were painted and decorated. The galleries in the old building are to be decorated in harmony with them in the present year.

The deaths took place during the year of Sir W. Thornley Stoker, Bart., who had been a member of the Board and an assiduous attendant at its meetings for over ten years; also of Mr. S. Catterson Smith, R.H.A., who for many years had been one of the representatives of the Royal Hibernian Academy upon the Board of the Gallery, and a regular attendant at its meetings. To fill the vacancies so caused, His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant appointed as Governors and Guardians Captain Neville R. Wilkinson, Ulster King of Arms, and Sir Frederick F. Cullinan, K.C.B. The Right Hon. Jonathan Hogg was re-appointed for a further term of five yerrs.

Edward Boyle, attendant, was retired on pension in September, and Charles Varnham, Lance-corporal, the Buffs, was appointed in his place.

I have the honour to be,

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WALTER ARMSTRONG,

Director.

To the Governors and Guardians,

National Gallery of Ireland.

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